



March 2, 2007
VS Release #07-04
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Directorate's military and civilian members receive honors

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – Air Force Research Laboratory's Space Vehicles Directorate recognized several of its military and civilian personnel during a ceremony conducted here Feb. 20.

For his participation in the inaugural AFRL Commander's Challenge, 1st Lt. Kenneth McDougall received the Air Force Achievement Medal. In addition, R. Scott Erwin earned the Award for Civilian Achievement for his involvement with the Space Scholars Program.

Three Airmen selected for quarterly awards included Capt. Mark Scherbarth (company grade officer category), Tech. Sgt. Chad Schmidt (noncommissioned officer category), and Senior Airman Jonathan Blanck (airman category). The latter two winners serve at the Directorate's division at Hanscom AFB, Mass.

Individuals nominated and/or selected for Air Force, Air Force Materiel Command, and AFRL honors were also acknowledged during the event. These consist of Capt. Stan Straight (Air Force nominee for the Arthur S. Flemming Award, science and mathematics category); Greg Spanjers (Air Force nominee for the Arthur S. Flemming Award, scientific category); Connie Rankin, Michael Kleiman, and Martin Martinez (2006 AFMC Public Affairs Director's Excellence Award for a planned event - TacSat-2 launch); Joan Fulkerson (AFMC nominee for Secretary of the Air Force Special Achievement Award, small business specialist); Harold "Vernon" Baker (AFMC nominee for the Air Force Association's Outstanding Civilian of the Year, senior program manager category); Capt. Aaron Banks (AFRL nominee for Air Force Communications and Information Award, company grade officer category) and Senior Airman Danny Warfield (AFRL nominee for Air Force Communications and Information Award, airman category).

Finally, the organization honored employees for lengths of federal service: Roger Shinnick (40 years), Jill Mahdessian (20 years), Geralyn Warner (20 years) and Greg Spanjers (10 years).

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